

The Northwest Missourian

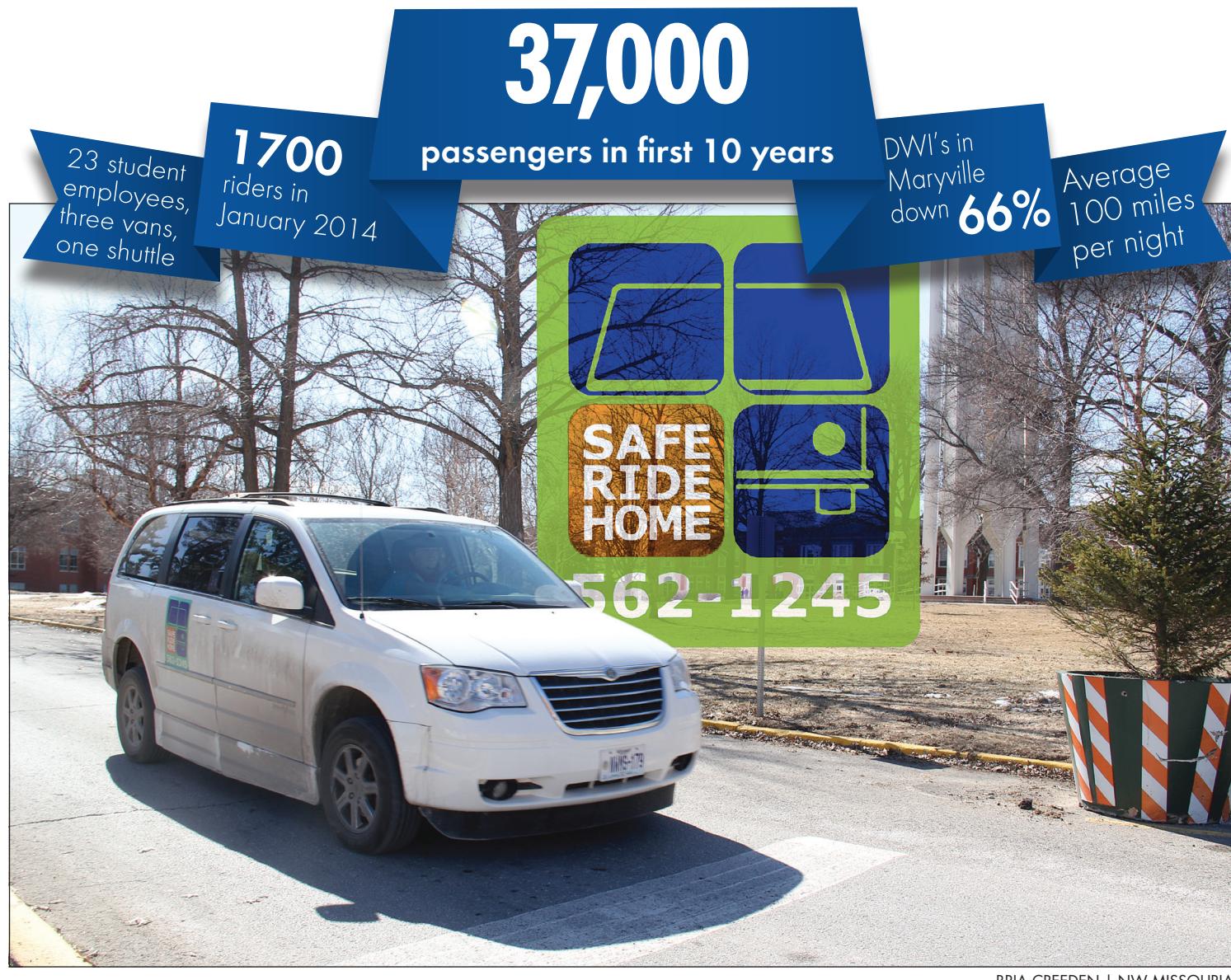
Thursday | February 27, 2014

A4

Ellen to host the
86th Oscars
Awards Show



V89 | N21



BRIA CREEDEN | NW MISSOURIAN

Since its inception in 2004, Safe Rides Home has provided over 37,000 rides to Northwest students while significantly decreasing driving while intoxicated charges throughout Maryville. Safe Rides has continued to expand, growing to three vans and a shuttle, which was introduced in Fall 2013.

Safe Rides rolls through decade of safety

MOLLY BRYAN

Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

Whether your car is smashed or you are, Safe Rides Home is always just a call away, and there to steer you home, safe and sound.

Going back to 2004, the Northwest Student Senate's interest was piqued by the concept of safe transportation for students at a Partners in Prevention conference. From there, Safe Rides was conceived and today celebrates its 10th birthday serving the University.

Safe Rides started its infancy as a grant-funded program that only took students home at late drunken hours, but a lot has changed in 10 years. Safe Rides is now a completely student-backed program, with 23 student employees. With a fleet

of three minivans and a new shuttle service, Safe Rides has developed into a Northwest staple.

"Our goal is to get students home safe at night," said Monica McCollough, Safe Rides' project and communication coordinator. "It is also a great way to get green on campus by carpooling."

"Originally, Safe Rides was designed just to take students home, and now it has grown and takes students wherever they need to go during our hours. Grocery trips and food runs are not uncommon. We have grown substantially in 10 years, but especially the past two years."

Safe Rides is college-budget friendly, provided to all students through a 75-cent per credit hour fee. Non-university guests can also ride for free as long as a Northwest student accompanies them on their journey. There is a reason the program is

called Safe Rides rather than "Squeal Rides." Safe Rides is 100 percent nameless, only requiring the student's "919" number because of liability purposes.

"A concern that some students have is that we will call the cops on them," McCollough said. "That is not what we do, unless medical attention is needed."

"Our focus is not to get people in trouble, but to provide them with a safe ride home."

Safe Rides has offered Northwest harm reduction, safety and protection for an entire decade. Its main priority is safety, and data shows it is doing just that, making a positive impact on students and community.

SEE **SAFE RIDES** | A5

Professors make impact in Haiti with shelters, water

SHANE STEELEY

Position Here | @TheMissourian

There are many things that can make people give up hope; crime, famine, sickness, and natural disasters are among them. A non-profit organization started by two Northwest professors helps citizens restore hope in a country that has experienced tragedy like few others.

Founded in 2005 by communications professor Bayo Oludaja, and Michael Bellamy, associate professor of natural sciences, House of Hope Haiti has helped create an orphanage and schoolhouse for the children of the small town of Williamson, a city about 40 miles away from the Haiti's capital, Port Au Prince. Along with the buildings, this organization also helped create a water-cleaning system and a fishery.

A big issue the organization addresses is the lack of clean drinking water. In order to help fix this problem, Bellamy and Oludaja came to a simple, yet effective, solution that is different from other organizations, thanks to Bellamy's background as a chemist.

SEE **HAITI** | A5



02/08/2013

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Northwest professors Bayo Oludaja and Michael Bellamy established the House of Hope Haiti in 2005, which helped create an orphanage, schoolhouse, and water-cleaning system for children in the city of Williamson.

Dedicated debate duo dominates deciding dual

BRANDON ZENNER

News Editor | @brandonzennner

Football season may be over, but that has not stopped Bearcats from continuing to win national championships during the off-season.

Freshmen Emily Meyers and Nick Van Ross took home the national title in the Public Forum Debate Category at the inaugural Public Communication Speech and Debate League National Tournament Feb. 22-23 at Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa. Meyers and Van Ross also placed second and third, respectively, in the Public Forum Speaker sweepstakes.

"Emily and I can end up putting up to about 10-plus hours a week looking for extra information that may make or break our case," Van Ross said. "That may not seem like a lot, but when you are a busy student, dedicating a minimum of two hours a day to anything can be tough. It was, and is, the happiest day of my life... and was kind-of the best birthday present ever."

Freshman Tristian Newell also placed fifth in radio broadcasting, leading Northwest to a third-place finish in the overall team category and second in the debate team sweepstakes.

"Northwest traveled just three

novice competitors in two events, but those students had an amazingly strong showing against much larger teams from Simpson, Ohio, Marietta and Ottawa," Director of Forensics Brian Swafford said. "The team of Emily Meyers and Nick Van Ross won all preliminary rounds of Public Forum and were the top-seeded team going into the final round."

Meyers and Vann Ross are the third and fourth Speaking Bearcats team members to earn national titles in the last three years. Senior Gabbi Ray won a national title in Program of Oral Interpretation in 2013, and Carl Stafford won a title in the same category in 2011.

The Speaking Bearcats entered the national tournament on a third-place finish in the individual events sweepstakes and fourth place overall at the Missouri Association of Forensic Activities State Championship Feb. 14-15 at the University of Central Missouri.

"It is always a bit of a disappointment when you don't win the state tournament, but this speaks more to the level of talent across the state," Swafford said. "I am incredibly proud of the work my students have put in over the past two weeks in anticipation of this tournament."

News Brief:
Bearcat Pitch receives honor

Bearcat Pitch, maintained by Northwest Landscape Services, was named by Pioneer Athletics as one of its 2013 Fields of Excellence award winners in recognition of the field's maintenance program and presentation.

Pioneer Athletics will award Northwest a certificate as well as a banner to display at Bearcat Pitch. Northwest Landscape Services treats and maintains roughly 100 acres on campus. In addition to mowing the field two or three times a week, staff members make stencils for logos that are painted onto the fields.

Athletic Grounds Supervisor Bob Ebrecht leads the team, which consisted of sports field groundskeepers as well as five student workers in 2013.

Northwest received the award in 2006 for its management of the turf at Bearcat Stadium.

Missourian Sports

Thursday | February 27, 2014

Follow us at @NWMSports for updates on Saturday's crucial MIAA matchups against Central Missouri.



V89 N20



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY CODY SIMMONS | NW MISSOURIAN

As recent as 2010, the nostalgia surrounding the Northwest men's basketball program was not up to par. This year's seniors have helped to make a change.

Bearcat seniors spur culture change at Northwest

CHRIS SCHOONOVER

Sports Editor | @schoon54

Going into a game, season or athletic career, every player wants to leave his or her imprint when the final buzzer sounds. Some accomplishments are remembered for a small amount of time, but the mark the seniors on the Northwest men's basketball team made will have a lasting impact for every team that walks into Bearcat Arena.

With a win Saturday, Northwest would win its second MIAA title in three years and has already cemented its third consecutive 20-win season, bringing a program from mediocrity to a benchmark in the conference.

"It was more special than coming into it already built," senior point guard Deshaun Cooper said. "When you've actually been in it and you helped build it, you've seen every step along the way instead of coming in at step four. You get to see step one, two, three, four and now five. Whenever you get to see something as a complete process and see everything change, it's always a great experience."

In 2009, Northwest finished 12-15 and 7-13 in the MIAA, missing the conference tournament. The Bearcats followed up 2009 with another disappointing 2010 campaign, finishing 10-16 overall and 8-14 in the conference.

"(It was) pretty whack," Cooper said. "All you saw was grey—every grey bleacher in the stand. It was a very different atmosphere when I first got here, and now to see the atmosphere here now, it's a great feeling."

That's when things turned around. Infused with recruits brought in by head coach Ben McCollum with a winning pedigree, Northwest began to tally up victories—22 in 2011 and 21 in 2012.

"I think the culture has drastically changed to where we've got winners," McCollum said. "The No. 1 thing when we recruit is that we get kids that come from winning programs and to get kids that have a great positive energy. I'm obviously an energy guy. I can't coach low energy...I've never been good at it."

McCollum, a former player at Northwest, returned to his alma mater in 2009, bringing a sense of relatability that his players have latched on to, which has shown dividends in the standings.

"He's a great guy and has helped me a lot on and off the court," Cooper said. "You don't meet too many people like that in this world who care for their athletes the way he does. He relates to us in a lot of different ways and knows how to talk to all of his players in different ways. He wants the best for us, and when you have a guy like that, you want to create good things."

Despite winning 21 games in the 2012-13 sea-

son, the Bearcats finished fifth in the MIAA, but put together an impressive and entertaining run to the conference tournament title game where they fell to Central Missouri in overtime.

Returning a bulk of starters and key reserves, expectations were sky-high for the first time in recent history for Northwest.

"Coming into this season, there were the most expectations for Northwest basketball in a long time," Funk said. "People were talking about an undefeated season and all that. It was kind of mind-blowing from going to not even making the tournament freshman year to people saying we should host the region this year."

"It's been a big transition for us and a compliment to all these guys and the coaching staff, too."

Instead of collapsing under the mounting expectations, Northwest carried the hype on its shoulders by winning and winning convincingly, including a 10-game tear through the MIAA schedule.

With a potential de facto conference championship looming against Central Missouri Saturday, the Bearcat seniors are looking to leave one last mark on their storied careers before hanging up their jerseys for good—and they don't plan on sharing the trophy with the second-place Mules.

"(I don't want to share it) at all...Not with those guys from Warrensburg. I don't even want to say their name," senior forward Dillon Starzl said. "It's going to be a championship game-type feel on Saturday. It's always a battle against Central. It's going to be a fight."

Wednesday's night game's results against Southwest Baptist were not available of press time but if the Bearcats are able to come away with a victory in either game, they are guaranteed a share of the conference title.

Regardless of Saturday's outcome, Northwest basketball is different than it was just four years ago—it wins, packs the gym and adds to the trophy case.

"It's going to be awesome to come back with these guys in a couple of years and hopefully see the banners from 2012 and, hopefully, a 2014 conference championship banner," Funk said. "I feel like that's when we are going to realize how special this was because that's something that's never going to be taken down."

1986-87

LAST OUTRIGHT MIAA TITLE FOR NORTHWEST

1,143

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE THIS SEASON

1ST TEAM TO CLINCH GAME IN KC

Bearcat baseball set to deal with more potential weather problems

JONATHAN BAKER

Missouri Reporter | @NWMSports

After last weekend's games concluded for the Northwest baseball team, there was a new all-time wins leader in the program's history.

With a victory Friday over Nebraska-Kearney (8-3, 2-2), head coach Darin Loe notched his 370th career victory as the Bearcats' skipper.

Northwest (5-5, 2-2) won 13-6 in a nine-inning match-up thanks to the hitting of shortstop Brandon Huske. The senior leadoff man went four-for-six at the plate with one RBI and three runs scored.

With another win Sunday to split the weekend series 2-2, Loe sits at 371 total wins.

"It's one of those milestones that, as a young coach going in, you don't really think about those things," Loe

said. "It just really makes you remember some of those players that come through the program and help contribute some of those wins. On Facebook and emails, the congratulations from former players that have helped build that win total is tremendous."

Loe and company now must quickly transition into a stretch in which the team will see 11 games in 16 days. The long road trip includes five different opponents with three MIAA

matchups.

"I think the guys would rather be playing than sitting, especially if you're sitting indoors," Loe said. "The pitching staff is going to have to jump a little bit. Playing these midweek games now gives us a little bit of an opportunity to play some guys that haven't gotten an opportunity to play. It gives those guys a chance to go out and prove themselves."

The busy month begins Friday at

2 p.m. against Missouri Western. The game was scheduled to be the first home series for the Bearcats, but due to field conditions, it could be played in St. Joseph. Follow @NWMSports on Twitter for updates on the venue for the series.

The Saturday game will start at 1 p.m. The Sunday contest to close out the series is also scheduled to start at 1 p.m.

Campus infected with kindness

LAUREN MCCOY

Asst. News Editor | @McCoy14

Be kind, for every person you meet is fighting a hard battle.

For most, this is just an inspiring saying, but sophomore Kimberly Meinke seems to have taken it to heart, leading her to start the organization Random Acts of Kindness.

"We actually had a class project in psychology of groups and teams, and I had the idea; why don't we do random acts of kindness throughout the semester?" Meinke said. "We were researching some random acts of kindness and found there was a foundation. We saw there are these RAK clubs across universities."

"It's not a huge thing yet, but enough that they recognize them on their website."

Established in 1995, the Random Acts of Kindness Foundation, headquartered in Denver, Colo., is "dedicated to inspiring people to practice kindness and pass it on." The website provides online resources to encourage acts of kindness everywhere, but

focuses on school communities.

In light of this information, Meinke and her group, senior Samantha Felder, junior Brook Gilland and senior Marissa Rangel, changed their idea and began the process of creating a student organization.

Meinke contacted the Random Acts of Kindness Foundation, an internationally recognized non-profit organization, and they agreed to help form the organization and Random Acts of Kindness Club -NWMSU, now officially listed on the Foundation's RAK club list.

Though the group was unable to form in the fall, it is now up and running and looking to recruit members.. Meinke hopes to continue variations of the deed the group committed last semester.

"In the fall semester, we did some small RAKs," Meinke said. "We put small sticky notes on people's cars – inspirational quotes, nice sayings, stuff like that. We saw some feedback on Facebook and Twitter, and that was neat to see."

Senior Lauren Fouts was a recipi-

ent of one of these notes. Fouts found a small yellow envelope that simply read "If you find me, this is for you!" The note inside had handwritten words of encouragement and hope.

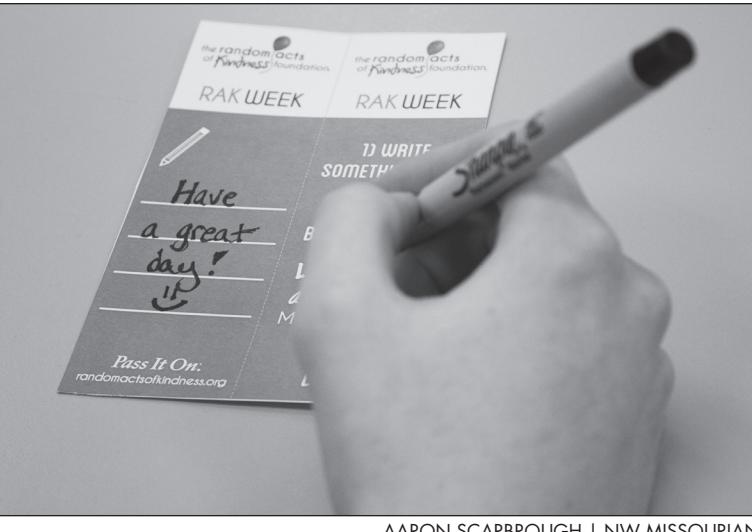
Fouts posted photos on Facebook with the caption: "This is the note that was inside. It was exactly what I needed, and I appreciate the stranger doing kind acts. Looking forward to paying it forward!"

Fouts wanted to thank the members of the group.

"It made me feel special and happy that people go out of their way for a complete stranger," she said. "You never know what they are going through that day, and I feel it gives them strength with a little kindness in the world occurring without promoting that they need it."

Besides sticky notes, the group took sticky treats to faculty members in the Administration Building. For Walk Out Day, the group provided four dozen donuts for the administration and staff. She said that had a lot of good feedback.

The quartet also spread the love



AARON SCARBROUGH | NW MISSOURIAN

Sophomore Kimberly Meinke, president of Random Acts of Kindness Club - NWMSU, writes and hides a note in a book for someone to find in the future.

off campus, taking cards to St. Francis to be distributed.

"It would be really neat to do the RAKs throughout the year...make an impact on the school," Meinke said. "Hopefully it'll spur some positive school climate."

Meinke said the organization is planning on brightening days both on campus and throughout Maryville.

"This is just supposed to be a fun

organization, not stressful, not super busy," she said. "A goal is to make it as big as possible. We're still in the beginning stages... I'm hoping it'll spark a lot of interest and passion in people to keep this going for a long time. I'd like to come back after I've graduated and after grad school and see it still thriving."

Students across Nodaway County enter National History Day competition

SHANE STEELEY

Chief Reporter | @TheMissourian

History will become the present when more than 140 middle school and high school students from across Nodaway County compete in National History Day at Northwest.

More than 140 students will come to Northwest February 28 for the chance to win a place in the State History Day competition. This would lead them to a spot in the national tournament with a shot at a \$125,000 cash prize.

National History Day started in Ohio in 1974 as a history version of a science fair. Since then, it has blossomed into a full blown national event where students from every state compete.

History Professor Dawn Gilley, the regional coordinator is disappointed in the response the competition has received from area schools.

"I sent a letter to every social studies department in fifteen counties," Gilley said. "Every year we seem to only see the same seven schools."

This year's tournament subject is "Rights and Responsibilities in History." This has led to many differ-

ent ideas for topics, from civil rights to abortion. There are five different categories for competitors to enter: documentary, exhibit, paper, performance and website.

"In order to score well, you have to show a breadth of sources. We look for a clear thesis," Gilley said. "There has to be a clear one to persuade us."

The subject matter usually tends to be very America-centric, but Gilley has noticed a change recently.

"We are seeing more world history," Gilley said. "I am seeing more Russian than we have had in the past. I like to see the places that are not represented that much."

This event is a way to make history more relatable. This is what reminded Dr. Gilley about a school project that she did when she was younger that got her into history.

"We all had to build castles and had a medieval war in class, and that made me see history is very tangible and real," Gilley said. "And that's what history does, it makes it real and not just something you see in a dusty textbook."

Joel Benson, department chairman of humanities and social sciences, can remember the first time His-

NATIONAL HISTORY DAY CONTEST
REGION 1 COMPETITION
Northwest Missouri State University
February 28
STATE COMPETITION
University of Missouri-Columbia
April 26
NATIONAL COMPETITION
University of Maryland at College Park
June 15-19

tory Day was celebrated at Northwest almost thirty years ago.

"I happened to be, out of sheer luck, one of the first judges," Benson said. "Indirectly, I have been a part of it since the beginning."

According to Benson, the benefits this event alone indicate its importance.

"It's got plenty of value. The principle goal is to foster interest in history," Benson said. "And this is a way to expand their horizons and have them do more than just look up on Wikipedia and do real research."

The involvement from students can be directly linked to their teachers' previous engagement with the History Day program, according to Benson.

With a \$150,000 prize up for grabs and over 143 students registered to compete, the competition could be another day to go down in the books as a success.

Student repeats as film champ

BRANDON ZENNER

News Editor | @brandonzenner

When sophomore Jacob Hayworth entered the Dordt College Prairie Grass Film Challenge, he thought he hit rock bottom. He did, and still walked away a champion.

In 2014, for the fifth straight year, Hayworth entered the contest, which was formatted as a 48-hour film challenge. Hayworth and his Good Enuf Productions crew won the 48-hour contest in 2013, but the crew hit rock bottom with this new challenge, as in, the "Rock Bottom Homeless Shelter."

Hayworth produced and edited the film between January 16 and January 18. Hayworth tied for first in College Best of Show, winning him a \$250 cash prize and a "Dordt," the competition's award at the ceremony Feb. 21.

"They gave us a prop, a line of dialogue, a genre and a character that we had to incorporate into the film," Hayworth said. "We were trying to think of what to do in available locations... with the character being a food critic, we thought it would look

funny having him try to shut down a homeless shelter."

Hayworth had to incorporate the character, George the food critic, into the comedy/musical comedy.

"The music was written in an hour and a half. We did all the filming in one night and all the editing the next day," Hayworth said.

According to the competition's website, the judges consisted of an independent panel of film and video professionals and enthusiasts.

After the contest's eighth year, Hayworth looks forward to competing in higher-stakes competitions soon.

"It's pretty awesome to win two years in a row," Hayworth said. "We were up for the challenge. We were pretty happy with it and are hoping to try bigger contests in the future."

Good Enuf Productions film "Rock Bottom" can be seen at http://www.dordt.edu/events/film_challenge/ or at Dordt College's YouTube page.

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Dr. Dallas Fitzgerald

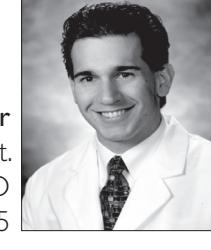
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Ashli

127 E. South Avenue | 660.582.8081

Friday, February 28

12:00 pm CITE Tech Chats Administration Building	2:00 pm Baseball vs. Missouri Western Baseball field
1:00 pm Body Image Awareness Week: Movie Screening	7:30 pm Theater Northwest: Spring Evening Ron Houston

Saturday, March 1

12:00 pm Sigma Society's 41st Annual Bridal Show Student Union	7:30 pm Theater Northwest: Spring Evening Ron Houston
1:00 pm Baseball vs. Missouri Western Bearcats Baseball field	

Sunday, March 2

All Day Art Exhibit: Jason Ramey Olive DeLuce Fine Arts Building	7:00 pm Catholic Mass Station
1:00 pm Baseball vs. Missouri Western Baseball Field	



Leslie Luke

Acute Care

Women's Health

Birth Control
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STD Testing

Chronic Health

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Diabetes
Asthma

Microdermabrasion

Laser Hair Removal

Physicals

DOT
Employment
Sport/School



Open Mondays & Fridays 9 am - 7 pm
Tuesdays & Thursdays 9 am - 5 pm
Closed on Wednesdays & Weekends

Regional airport hit hard with winter winds, debris

MOLLY BRYAN

Chief Reporter | @TheMissourian

Living in the Midwest makes predicting weather extremely challenging. The highly anticipated winter-to-spring transition made an impression on the Maryville area Feb. 20 when blistering cold winds, sleet and snow struck Maryville unannounced throughout the morning.

Perhaps no one felt the force of the elements more than the Northwest Missouri Regional Airport.

"The weather damaged four hangars and four airplanes," Airport Manager Kevin Rankin said. "Three of the airplanes are substantially damaged and one is only minor. At least one of the airplanes is not fixable."

The airport houses 22 planes, all of which are privately owned, except for the plane owned by Northwest, which the University is assessing for damage. According to Northwest's university airplane manual, the plane is available for "any University employee who needs to travel in the course of their job responsibilities and for which the travel will be paid by a University account."

According to reports by the Weather Channel, Maryville sustained wind gusts at more than 50 miles per hour. The airport does not have measurements of the winds force due to the severity of the surprise storm.

"The power went out on our weather machine," Rankin said. "Thanks to the power outage on the machine, we do not have recordings on anything."

The vast damage was overwhelming, but no one was hurt. Rankin is waiting to hear from insurance companies regarding the damage and figuring a timeline for repairs.

"Everyone is safe and no one was injured," Rankin said. "Only airplanes and some buildings have damage. We don't know the estimates on the damage yet. We are just waiting on the insurance company and to hear what they have to say about it."

The damage is estimated to total around \$500,000.



SHAWNA KINGSTON | NW MISSOURIAN

Northwest Missouri Regional Airport received the worst of a storm that struck Maryville Feb. 20. The storm damaged four hangars and four airplanes, including one owned by Northwest Missouri State University. Total damage costs are estimated around \$500,000.

Maryville, Northwest make use of alternative energy sources

MOLLY BRYAN

Chief Reporter | @TheMissourian

To improve some of the Maryville R-II School District's energy problems, district administrators are relying on the sun.

"Our district, and specifically, our head of maintenance, Ron Wilson, have aggressively pursued other improvements related to efficiency and energy savings," said Assistant Superintendent Steve Klotz said. "Ron Wilson has been an excellent leader in this area in our district and is continuously researching new ways and practices for us to improve as a district."

Maryville School District has six separate units of solar panels commissioned by Kansas City Power and Light in six different locations in the

district. The first system came in September of 2013 and the last came in December of 2013 via web.

Maryville High School hopes to generate future savings with its use of solar energy.

"Our annual projected savings for the district is between \$18,000-\$20,000," Klotz said. "To date, we have generated 39,500 KWH of power with the systems, which equates to \$4,147.50 worth of savings."

Whether it is solar energy or other energy alternatives, Maryville schools continuously look to conserve energy. Adding motion-sensor lights and bathroom faucets, an automated heating, ventilation and air conditioning program and a thermal roof coating are all ways Maryville has increased its efficiency.

The average price of a solar panel

has declined by 60 percent since the beginning of 2011, according to the Solar Industry Data. Although the price of solar panels have dropped, solar energy may not be financially ideal for Northwest Missouri State University.

"The costs of photovoltaic systems have come down substantially in the last decade, but the cost is still substantial," said Dan Boyt, the University's energy manager. "A system that would supply enough electricity for the entire campus would cost on the order of \$80 million."

Northwest chose not to gamble on investing a large chunk in solar energy. Other energy alternative seem to be more beneficial for the University.

"At the end of the day, investments in energy conservation are

more attractive to the University than solar," Boyt said. "Optimistically, solar might have a 20 year payback period, but there are several energy conservation projects we are implementing to cut consumption that have paybacks of under three years.

"These projects produce all the same environmental benefits of switching fuel sources to solar, but at a far better return on investment for Northwest."

Although Northwest focuses on other energy options, the University does utilize some solar power. The most commonly known form of solar energy is the use of photovoltaic panels, which are solar panels that directly convert the sun's light into electricity.

"Northwest has a small solar ar-

ray at the notebook services building, but it does not provide a substantial amount of power," Boyt said. "Northwest receives over 50 percent of our energy input from alternative energy in the form of wood chips used for campus heating. This has proven to be a much more cost-effective means of utilizing alternative energy than photovoltaic panels."

Since the wood fuel is created through photosynthesis, it is actually a form of solar energy, just not in a form most people think of."

Whether these energy alternatives are financially favorable or not, they are proven to be environmentally advantageous. The community of Maryville is doing their part to ensure Northwest Missouri stays energy efficient and environmentally friendly in the future.

Missouri sees increase in food pantry users

BRANDON ZENNER

News Editor | @brandonzennner

Unemployment rates continue to decrease statewide, but Missouri residents are relying on state supplied food pantries more than ever before.

In 2013, Missouri food banks set a record of 117,007,189 pounds of food distributed, a 23 percent jump from 2012. With shrinking donated supplies, food agencies across the state had to raise nearly \$10 million for transportation and costs and to supply food across Missouri's food pantries.

The Ministry Center in Maryville has continued to see an increase in its visitors over the past year as well, says volunteer Ruth Stiens.

"We have definitely seen an increase in our distribution," Stiens said. "With the way the economy is and with the closing of Energizer, people around here are at need more than ever."

The Ministry Center has provided food and clothing for families in need

for 14 years thanks to the multitude of volunteers that help run and maintain the facility.

Ellen Feldhausen, director of communications for Harvesters - the Community Food Network, in Kansas City, says the center has helped 37,000,000 in 26 counties throughout Missouri and Kansas in 2013, a number which was definitely higher than in previous years.

"We understand it can be a hard time for people and do so much to make sure everyone is taken care of," Feldhausen said. "Most of it comes with education and letting people know that we are at a very high demand, especially when the temperatures begin to drop. There's always room for more supplies and volunteers, but everyone has been understanding."

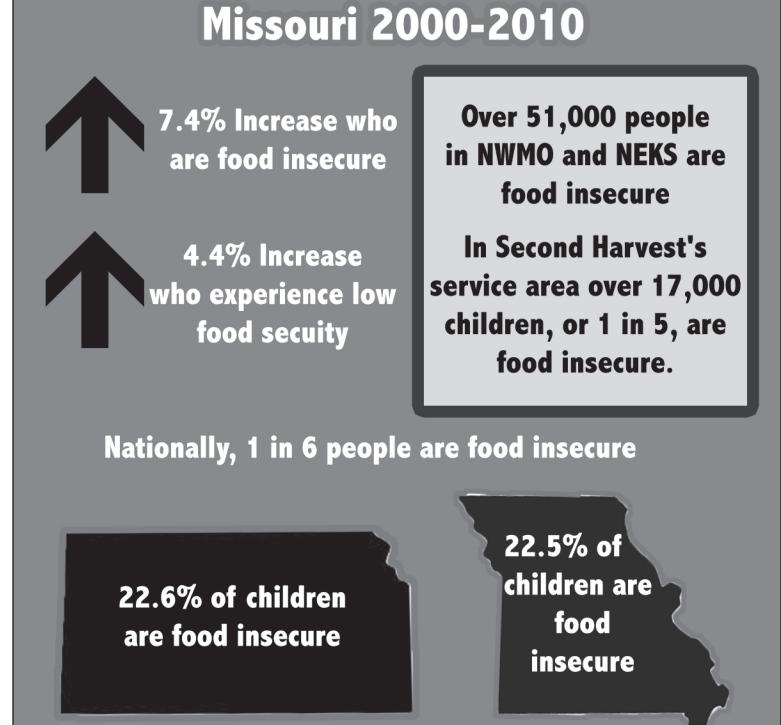
Executive Director Scott Baker with the Missouri Food Bank Association says the USDA ranks Missouri no. 2 in the nation for "very low food security," meaning Missouri residents have

a hard time securing food for themselves and families. Baker also says that not only are more people visiting the various pantries, but they are depending on them for longer amounts of time.

However, the recently-passed Farm Bill allocates an extra \$200 million to food banks nationwide, which allows food banks to buy more commodities and save an estimated \$16.6 billion over the next decade. It is unclear how much this will help, since the bill was passed just recently.

Though it's been a tough time for the state's food pantries to keep up with demands, Stiens says the Ministry Center continues to do its best and is confident in its volunteers.

"The community is very good about helping keep up from churches, organizations, students from the college and grocery stores," Stiens said. "Anyone can come in and work, it's just about having people volunteer their time and money."



Worship in Maryville

First Presbyterian Church

Worship, Sundays @ 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school for all ages @ 9 a.m.
Shepherds Kitchen, Thursdays @ 5 p.m.



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Ellen steps into host spotlight once more

Take a look back at past hosts, see what makes for a successful night of laughs

HALEY VICKERS

Features Editor | @Hay_dayy

We all want the hostess with the merriness. She has to be witty, funny and look fab in black. We demand that she gives us a preview for the spectacular night of entertainment without giving away too much. She has to make fun of our favorite celebrities, but not too much fun. And of course, we have to be able to understand what the hell he is saying. We may be picky, but we have all seen the worst of the worst when it comes to hosting award shows.

The whimsical Tina Fey and Amy Poehler hosted the 2014 Golden Globes in, January, and to say the least, they absolutely killed it. It was announced a few weeks ago that actor Hugh Jackman will host the 2014 Tony Awards in June. And, believe it or not, Ellen DeGeneres is back for round two of hosting the Oscars, which air this Sunday evening on ABC at 6 p.m.

With her entertaining talk show, TV personality and outrageous sense of humor, she will surely rock the Oscars and out-do herself once again.

With the thought of these upcoming big-name hosts, let's take a stroll down memory lane, shall we?

The Oscar Awards began in the '20s, 1929 to be exact, and the first award ceremony was hosted by Douglas Fairbanks. He was a famous actor, producer and screenwriter. Unlike DeGeneres, he had no time for funny business. The first award ceremony lasted five minutes after a dinner where 15 awards were handed out to Hollywood's honeys. From there the Oscars have grown to be the biggest night in the business. From downright embarrassing moments to hilarious, gut-busting hosts, the Oscars have entertained Americans for decades.

Billy Crystal, an actor, director, comedian and writer, among many other things, has by far blown all other Oscar hosts out

of the water. He has hosted the Academy Awards nine times, the last time being in 2012.

The opening monologue of the 84th Academy Awards is definitely one to remember. Crystal himself runs through scene after scene of the nominated films for that year. He hits all the big films of the year and puts himself in place of the main characters. He includes movies such as "The Help," "Bridesmaids" and a glimpse of "Harry Potter." He also includes Justin Bieber, which made all the young girls melt. Crystal pulled off yet another perfect opening to the most dazzling night in Hollywood. His dry humor and quirky attitude had the audience drooling for more. He joked that the movies were the place to go to "laugh, to cry, to question...to text." At the end, he broke out in song about the upcoming film nominees, which engaged the audience and had them pumped for the awards.

Next up is Johnny Carson, who hosted the Oscars five times. In 1980, he opened the awards by saying, "In the interest of time, I would like to begin tonight by thanking everybody's mother and father."

Whoopi Goldberg described Carson as "the bridge between the old and the new. You can define periods of time by who was hosting the Oscars."

Some of his other jokes while hosting the Oscars included, "Tonight, as you know, is the night where all the winners thank the little people they've stepped on all year." He also joked with Miss Piggy from the Muppets about how she wasn't receiving an Oscar, but maybe an "Oscar Mayer."

Another crowd pleaser, the dynamic duo of Steve Martin and Alec Baldwin hosted the Oscars in 2010. They spent their whole opening monologue pointing fingers and cracking jokes at the audience. From Zac Efron to George Clooney, everyone got a taste of bittersweet humor from the hooligans on stage. Their performance was simple, but funny, and nicely done.

Now for the bummer. Anne Hathaway and James Franco take the cake for terrible Oscar co-hosts. In 2011, the pair took the stage and seemed quite unprepared. There was a weird, almost awkward vibe between

the two. In their opening monologue, Anne did attempt a couple jokes, but they fell short for the audience. They both called out to Hathaway's mother and Franco's grandma. Both tried to get some giggles out of the audience, but failed. Even after the Oscars, the two had arguments that the media ate up. Franco said he hated Hathaway and joined the group of "Hatha-haters." The couple made up eventually, but nobody likes post-Oscar drama; on top of their hosting was not up to par.

DeGeneres is someone that we should definitely look forward to seeing on Sunday. When DeGeneres hosted the Academy Awards for the first time in 2007, her opening monologue began with her explaining how it has always been her dream to host the Oscars.

And now, she gets to take another whack at it. In her first opening, she said, "A lot of British nominees, a lot. Would I say too many? Not here, no. At home in my pajamas with a half a box of Chardonnay in me, who knows what I'd say?"

She made several shoutouts during her opening monologue, including to Leonardo Dicaprio saying, "And then Leonardo Dicaprio is here. Hi, Leo, how you doing? I don't have a joke, I just thought the ladies would want to look at him for a second. Look at you!"

If her previous hosting foreshadows her soon approaching 2014 performance, there is much to look forward to as we watch the best films of the year get awards and appreciate the hosts that have entertained us in the past.



The legendary hosts Douglas Fairbanks, Billy Crystal, Steve Martin, Alec Baldwin and Johnny Carson take the stage, joking with their audience during their opening monologues of previous Oscar Awards.

HAITI

CONTINUED FROM A1

Bellamy and Oludaja's system is a small scale water tower-like method reminiscent of many American towns and cities.

"Water treatment is a lot trickier than you would think it would be. A lot of other groups will put in water systems, but what the common people don't know is 99 percent of the time those projects fail," Bellamy said. "The reason they fail is they don't take into account the water system needs to be convenient."

Bellamy feels the project is a new way to look at water along with creating an independence for the people they are helping.

"You have to supply sufficient training so they are able to troubleshoot the system," Bellamy said. "We try to do the opposite of other organizations."

Most organizations want to come in and save the day. What we want to do is basically what we do here (at the University). We teach people how to do science. Then they don't need us anymore."

While water treatment is important, the largest goal is to educate the children of the area. Children from the orphanage are not the only ones who can go to the school; anyone in town can attend. Oludaja said he is happy with how many people he could help.

"Accessibility is important. Without us, they would probably not be able to afford it," Oludaja said. "It is really gratifying being able to touch lives in this way, especially because we are in education. Education has changed this society."

Of course, the children cannot study all the time. There is time for play as well. The children were also able to get their own soccer uniforms and equipment, including cleats and goalie gloves, thanks to the organization. Oludaja, who was a former college soccer player, also did some double duty as the coach.

While many charities resort to using funds in order to get to places and do other things that are needed, none of the money that is collected is used for anything except the cause.

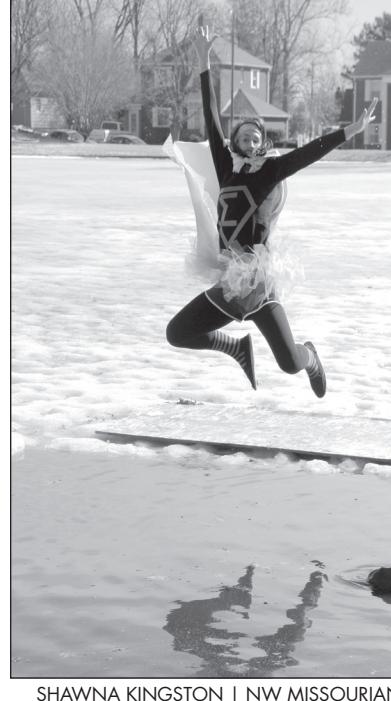
"We don't take anything. We pay our way," Bellamy said. "Every penny goes to the kids in Haiti. We don't use any money for any kind of administrative cost."

Another member of the Northwest community who helps with projects in Haiti is Garrett Hawk, supervisor of the campus Christian house. Hawk has travelled to Haiti every year since he arrived at Northwest in 2010.

"I first began my involvement as a freshman, and I did a month-long internship with the mission," Hawk said. "Since then, I have been taking groups twice a year: once during summer and once during winter break. Exposing them to what it was like and getting them involved."

The kindness and gratitude from the Haitians moves Hawk strongly.

"The kids are raised well and are very grateful. It's very refreshing. Every time I leave, I want to go back," Hawk said.

STUDENTS TAKE ANNUAL PLUNGE

SHAWNA KINGSTON | NW MISSOURIAN

Senior Jena Sosnowchik leaps into the frigid waters at the annual Golden Pond Plunge Feb. 21.

SAFE RIDES

CONTINUED FROM A1

dropped by 66 percent since Safe Rides has been in place," McCollough said. "Not only has that helped with the safety of our students, but all others on the roads as well."

"On average, we drive 100 miles per night, and we can't go outside the city limits of Maryville. Since 2004, we have had 37,000 transports."

Some colleges have transportation programs similar to Safe Rides as a volunteer program, but the foundation of Northwest's program was to employ students.

"The only thing that I help with is hiring, paperwork and the branch between our workers and University," McCollough said. "I am only here for help and support. This is a completely student-run program. It is students helping out their fellow peers."

This program is not only beneficial to the students who ride, but also to the employees who drive, providing them leadership and interesting experiences to say the least.

"Our main focus is safety, but we like to have fun as well. Obviously, since we see students in a variety of manners, some interesting things have happened in Safe Rides vans,"

said Lindsey Wright, student program manager. "From our drivers getting licked in the face, to marriage proposals, bodily fluid releases and just about everything in between."

On average, about one person each semester has gotten sick in the vans, McCollough said. Each Safe Rides vehicle is prepared with trash cans in case the effortless expedition turns into a vomit voyage, by supplying trash cans in each vehicle. This is not a regular occurrence for those late-night Safe Rides trips, however.

"I am extremely impressed with our student body," McCollough said. "The students have been very respectful and appropriate to our Safe Rides program and its drivers."

Despite the popular reputation of providing tipsy trips back to the dorms, Safe Rides introduced a new piece to the program that McCollough says is being underused.

Similar to a bus route, the Safe Rides shuttle has a continuous route that goes throughout town for timely pickup and drop-off. The shuttle stops at some of Maryville's most popular destinations such as Walmart, Hy-Vee and The Station.

"The shuttle is not being utilized as much as it should," McCollough said. "Instead of calling Safe Rides for a minivan pickup, the shuttle is

run like a city bus route.

"We want students to use this service more because it can be more time efficient than our minivan service."

The Safe Rides program is striving to make improvements in the near future to benefit Northwest students.

"In about a month, we are going to the National Safe Rides Conference in Columbia, Mo., at the University of Missouri," said Ian Chandler, Safe Rides future student manager. "We are going to get a bunch of ideas for the future and to expand Safe Rides. Be looking for positive changes in the near future."

Students have the ability to affect the future of Safe Rides by giving the program their opinions.

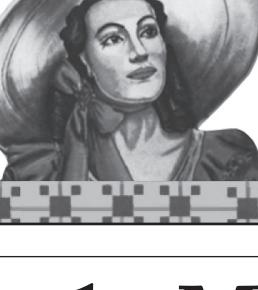
"We want to know what the students want; we ask for feedback," McCollough said. "We need to adjust to what the student population wants and expects from Safe Rides. The best way to make improvements for 2014 is by getting ideas at the conference and by student input."

Safe Rides has ensured the safety of Northwest students and the Maryville community for 10 years, and whether you need trash bags or are trashed yourself, those trusted white vans will be there.

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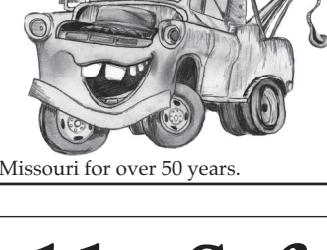
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Blotter from the Maryville Department of Public Safety**Feb. 6.**

Thomas R. Schienebart, 17, was charged with receiving stolen property and leaving the scene of an accident.

Feb. 11

There is an ongoing investigation of larceny at the 2500 block of Aurora Avenue.

Feb. 15

There was a smoke alarm reported at

the 500 block of West Fourth Street.

Feb. 17

Dustin D. Rumier, 22, Gentry, Mo., was charged with driving while suspended, failure to wear seat belt, failure to register a motor vehicle and improper license plates at the 1600 block of East First Street.

Feb. 18

Anastazia J. Roseberry, 20, was charged with driving while suspended at the 300 block of North Main Street.

A summons was issued for minor in possession at Hudson Hall.

Feb. 12

Six summonses were issued for minor in possession at Perrin Hall.

A summons was issued for minor in possession at Millikan Hall.

Feb. 11

Adam F. Draper, 35, Guilford, Mo., was arrested for probation violation.

Feb. 12

Michael D. McCormick, 48, Verona, Mo., was arrested for failure to appear to appear

Aaron W. Brayman, 25, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia at the 300 block of North Walnut Street.

Feb. 20.

There is an ongoing investigation of property damage at the 1100 block of Brentwood Drive.

Kenneth C. Whitney, 19, Brunswick, Mo., was charged with minor in possession at the 600 block of North

Market Street.

Feb. 21

Jordan R. Leal, 20, was charged with assault and minor in possession at the 300 block of North Market.

An accident occurred between Francis B. Berg, 86, and Roger D. Treese, 64 at the 1200 block of East First Street

Feb. 22

Michala M. Bock, 18, Kansas City, Mo., was charged with minor in possession and littering at the 600 block of North Buchanan.

An accident occurred between Russell A. Wiederholt, 55, and Robert J. Finch, 18, at the 700 block of South Hester. Wiederholt was issued a citation for careless and imprudent driving.

Blotter from the University Police Department**Feb. 7**

A summons was issued for a fire alarm at Hudson and Perrin Hall.

A summons was issued for operating a vehicle with a suspended license at College Park Drive.

Feb. 8

A summons was issued for a fire alarm at Hawthorn Apartments.

A summons was issued for a minor in possession at Hudson Hall.

Seven summonses were issued for minor in possession at Lot 10.

Feb. 10

A summons was issued for stealing at the Student Recreation Center.

Three summonses were issued for disorderly conduct at Millikan Hall.

Feb. 12

Six summonses were issued for minor in possession at Perrin Hall.

A summons was issued for minor in possession at Millikan Hall.

Feb. 17

Five summonses were issued for minors in possession at Lot 10.

A summons was issued for minor in possession at Hudson Hall.

A summons was issued for possession of marijuana at Lot 44.

A summons was issued for property damage at the athletic grounds.

Feb. 19

Four summonses were issued for minor in possession at Franken Hall.

A summons was issued for stealing at Phillips Hall.

Feb. 21

A summons was issued for property damage at Lot 20.

Feb. 22

A summons was issued for minor in possession at Centennial Drive.

A summons was issued for tampering with a vehicle at 1212 Fox Alley Apartments.

A summons was issued for burglary at Millikan Hall.

A summons was issued for possession of marijuana.

pear, littering and taking/disposing of wildlife.

Dustin L. Smith, 31, Independence, Mo., was arrested for theft/stealing.

Feb. 22 Shawn Sisney, 43, was arrested for trespassing.

Mark J. Huxtable, 51, Maitland, Mo., was arrested for failure to appear and speeding.

Feb. 23 Steven F. Boedeker, 30, was arrested for domestic assault.

Blotter from the Nodaway County Sheriff's Office**Feb. 3**

Xavier B. Wildward, 25, was arrested for failure to appear and theft.

Feb. 5

Adam C. Bryant, 39, was arrested with possession of a controlled substance except 35 grams or less of marijuana.

Feb. 6

Kevin M. Hack, 28, St. Joseph, Mo., was arrested for probation violation.

Joshua L. Garnett, 31, was arrested for failure to appear and peace disturbance.

Lauren K. Alonso, 33, was arrested for theft/stealing and receiving stolen property.

Feb. 7

Megan N. McGuire was arrested for failure to appear and property damage.

Feb. 11

Adam F. Draper, 35, Guilford, Mo., was arrested for probation violation.

Feb. 12

Michael D. McCormick, 48, Verona, Mo., was arrested for failure to appear to appear

and peace disturbance.

Feb. 13

A Skidmore, Mo., subject reported identity theft.

Feb. 18

Laurin A. Pruessner, 23, was arrested for domestic assault.

Feb. 19

OUR VIEW

Safe Rides is central to the Northwest experience

Safe Ride is often taken for granted amongst our fellow Northwest students. You pay for it every year in student fees. It's always on the back of your mind as you map out plans for Friday night. The University leadership hammers it into the mind of every prospective freshman on his first tour through campus.

Safe Ride is such a fixture in our community that it's often hard to imagine why anyone would drink and drive in Maryville. Yet, every weekend, you'll notice someone drunkenly dialing everyone in their phone for a ride, only to let out a sigh of relief once he looks at the back of his Bearcat Card. Safe Ride isn't always appreciated, but it is needed.

Ten years ago today, the Northwest Student Senate went to a national Partners In Prevention (PIP) conference and got the idea for Safe Ride. Since then, Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) offenses in Maryville have gone down 66 percent, a staggering number when you consider how long it takes to bring down these numbers through education and other means. Admittedly, this may be due to the small size of the town and the ability for residents to walk to most places. However, thanks to Safe Ride, the only reason someone would even consider driving drunk can be chalked up to utter impatience.

Northwest students often com-

plain about the timeliness and reliability of the Safe Ride program. We've all heard the droves of people outside Molly's after closing time bemoaning how long it is taking for Safe Ride to get there. While it may be news to some narcissistic students, Safe Ride employees have better things to do than drop everything and flip a U-turn to drag them from the bars. Perhaps students could call Safe Ride shortly before they intend on being picked up and just wait to be picked up when it's convenient, as opposed to waiting until after closing time to call, when everyone else is also calling. Normally, it would be a stretch to ask inebriated college students to plan ahead. However, we feel this is a simple exception.

In the full story on page one, University officials express their concern that the new shuttle service aspect of their program is under-utilized. For the many who probably don't know, there is now a shuttle that runs every Friday, making several stops throughout the town. This gives credence to the notion that Safe Ride is not just a binge drinking transport service. International students and those without a car utilize this service every week for basic necessities, like food or household supplies. The new shuttle service also highlights the University's ability to come up with new ways to expand the program.



BRIA CREEDEN | NW MISSOURIAN

The Safe Rides Home shuttle makes a designated stop in front of The Station. The shuttle runs on Friday from 4 p.m. to 2 a.m.

We here at the Missourian are often obligated to harp on the various problems going on at the University and throughout the community.

However, it's time to give credit where credit is due. The Safe Ride program is one of the most worthwhile uses of students' money and the school's

resources in recent memory. Even if you don't use it, understand its value to the college experience here at Northwest.

CAMPUS TALK

Is the Safe Rides Home program a good use of students' money?



"Yes and no. It's great for people who don't have cars, but half the time you can't even depend on them for a ride."



"I've never used it, but it's a really beneficial thing for the campus to have. It definitely keeps a lot of people out of trouble."



"Yes, I think Safe Ride is really reliable and it definitely saves people from drinking and driving."



"It's a great use of our tuition money because it's used by students to get around town and to avoid drunk driving."



"On one hand, it's a good program and I'm glad we have it. On the other hand, the shuttle service addition last year was unnecessary."

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Communication

Common Core standards are rigorous, but ultimately worth it

all students to prove it had met the bar. If not, states would fire teachers and administrators while allowing students in under-performing schools the right to transfer to a better school at the cost of the sending school. Tests became more important, as NCLB linked school funding to schools' performance on those standardized tests.

Policy makers who developed NCLB had great intentions, but states gamed the system. Sensing federal pressure to perform, each state adjusted their proficiency bar -- otherwise, they would lose much-needed funding during a time of decreasing support for education at the state and federal levels. A test in one state would evaluate students on one set of skills and establish one level for proficiency, while another state's test would cover a different set of standards and have a much different level for proficiency. In essence, tests varied drastically from state to state and unequally compared students' abilities.

With this level of discrepancy evident, the National Governors Center and the Council of Chief State School Officers gathered a group of teachers, administrators and experts to create consistent benchmarks. These Common Core frameworks were designed to be implemented in all states to prepare students to be more college and career ready and competitive on a global stage with other countries.

The CC standards are rigorous. They foment critical thinking, problem-solving skills and deep learning in mathematics and English. Yet the standards are designed to be broad in nature, allowing individual districts to prepare their teachers to help students develop and demonstrate important skills, including reading more complex texts and creating answers to real-world problems.

In English, the CC asks students to carefully read a passage, explicitly summarize, and cite evidence to support their conclusions while making inferences. In mathematics,

the CC moves beyond mere memorization; conceptual understanding is paramount. Deeper thinking trumps memorization of formulas and plugging in numbers until students arrive at the right answer. Concepts matter more than multiplication tables.

The CC is more than just a test. Its implementation is based on measuring students' current reading abilities, creating an effective curriculum of instructional blueprints, training teachers on inquiry-based instruction, and evaluating students' abilities to synthesize new information expressed through reading, writing and mathematics. Standardized tests with CC will be more open-ended, asking students for constructed responses and requiring them to complete performance tasks, not just bubble tests. Northwest's educator preparation programs are actively integrating elements of the CC into our curricula as we continue to prepare high-quality teachers and school leaders.

No one can argue the need for students to be well-prepared and perform at their highest levels. There is uncertainty that this newest approach will augment American global competitiveness. Students will likely struggle with the new CC assessments this spring. However, the mission of Common Core is to unify the benchmarks for student success and paint a clearer picture of what college and career ready really means. Struggle is expected; expectations are increasing.

As for the criticisms of the new approach, more testing will likely mean more pressure to show high test scores to better compete for increasingly-limited state and federal education funds. The Common Core goal is to measurably improve learning while preparing the next generation of American students to maximize their skills in reading, mathematics, and writing -- a worthy goal shared by Northwest's teacher preparation programs.

Olympics are nothing but a public relations extravaganza

THOMAS DRESSLAR
Opinion Editor

The Winter Olympics are a peculiar institution. Every four years, a couple dozen countries get together and compete in relatively obscure sports in the name of international unity. The media goes into a frenzy, reporting every angle of the festivities to an almost ridiculous extent.

For some unknown reason, NBC attempts to tell me my patriotism should be affected by our bobsledding team's success.

Despite all the cheery tales of perseverance and sportsmanship, this year proved once again that the Olympics are more about politics than friendly competition between nations.

From the perspective of the citizens of a host country, the Olympics don't seem to make very much sense. However, in the minds of publicity-minded politicians, the Olympics make all the sense in the world.

The most recent iteration of the Winter Games took place in the tumultuous country of Russia, whose latest human rights abuses haven't exactly garnered them a positive public image.

For Russian President Vladimir Putin, the 2014 Olympics in Sochi presented him with an opportunity. An opportunity to show the world that Russia is a safe, wholesome place whose leadership isn't imprisoning political enemies and stomping on the rights of homosexuals.

So in order to woo the international community, Russia spent a record \$51 billion to transform a dead resort town into a winter wonderland of new facilities and sports complexes. According to the New York Times, the public will foot 90 percent of the cost

of the new facilities built specifically for the games. These facilities were built with little consideration for future profitability and long-term quality.

Do you think the average Russian cares about splurging their tax dollars on a bobsledding track? Perhaps they care more about the thousands of citizens forced out of their home to make way for the Olympics. Maybe their citizens would rather have free press than a public relations victory on the national stage.

See, this year's Winter Olympics were exactly what Putin wanted: a clever distraction from Russia's countless human rights abuses. Just like Beijing and most of the previous Olympic games, politics trumped sport.

This is not necessarily a bad thing.

At times, it highlighted problems with the world that need to be addressed, such as Jesse Owens' triumph in front of Adolf Hitler at the 1936 Summer Olympics in Berlin. The authoritarian regime of Vladimir Putin was exposed in Sochi, but Putin's political machine largely controlled the news cycle. It seems evident that Putin transformed the town of Sochi into a multi-billion dollar winter sports emporium for the sole purpose of wooing the international community.

We need to understand the Olympics for what they really are: a massive public relations stunt orchestrated by a country's leadership, whose citizens want to see spending on combating homelessness infrastructure repair.

In the future, the Olympic selection committee should choose a country that can afford and adequately handle everything that comes with hosting the Olympics. The host country must weigh the financial and social situation in their country to determine if their citizens really want a costly sporting event such as the Olympics.

Perhaps then I could get a little more excited about alpine skiing four years from now.

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Boys head into district semis after solid win to open tourney

JOEY TUCKER

Chief Sports Reporter | @joetuckc311

In order to advance to the district championship game, Maryville boys basketball will have to overcome a physical Lawson team that dominated the Spoofhounds earlier in the year.

The Cardinals (20-6) took it to the 'Hounds (6-17) to the tune of a 71-42 loss in a Jan. 28 matchup in the Cameron Tournament. Head coach Mike Kuwitzky said his team needs to be aggressive against a bigger Lawson lineup.

"They're tough and really physical, especially their bigs down low," Kuwitzky said. "We'll really have to battle in the paint and try to match their physicality. That's where they hurt us last time."

A full-court press the Cardinals routinely exhibit will test Maryville's ball movement, which has steadily improved, Kuwitzky said.

"First, we need to find a way to beat their press because they can really suffocate you defensively," Kuwitzky said. "We've been passing the ball much better. We moved the ball well, (in the first round against Cameron), and we have to keep that up."

The Spoofhounds advanced to the semifinals after defeating Cameron 54-42 in the rubber match between the Midland Empire Conference opponents. Maryville lost the first meeting 46-42, but came back with a 53-42 victory in the Feb. 17 contest.

Following a slow start, the 'Hounds' second rotation came through for a strong finish to the half, where Maryville led 25-18 and never lost the lead.

"The starters came out sluggish. I don't know if they were tired, but we went to our bench early and they came in



FILE PHOTO | NW MISSOURIAN

Senior guard Ty Hilsabeck pulls up just outside the lane against Cameron Feb. 17. Maryville plays Lawson at 6 tonight at Lathrop in a district semifinal matchup.

huge for us," Kuwitzky said. "We went deep into our bench and played a lot of young guys and they came through."

Junior forward Jacob Cacek led Maryville in scoring with 13 points, and senior forward Ty Hilsabeck added 10.

The Spoofhounds' tilt against Lawson will send the winner to the district championship game March 1 to play the winner of Trenton and Bishop LeBlond. Maryville will tip off against Lawson at 6 p.m. Thursday at Lathrop.

Girls end season with 26-point loss to Lathrop

TYLER BROWN

Chief Sports Reporter | @TyMan4_

you're going to have some matchup problems."

Despite ending the season with a dismal record, Hageman praised his three seniors on the team for keeping the team positive all season with the losses mounting.

The four-win season was the last hurrah for point guard Cassie Holtzman, shooting guard Chelsea Byland and power forward Gabby Church.

"It's some of the best seniors I ever had," said Hageman. "With the season that we had, it was obviously a struggle this year. Our seniors held us together. We had all these games where we'd get down a little bit and our girls would just keep fighting."

Hageman also points to the tough conference schedule to the losing record.

He knows that the schedule will not be any easier next year and said his team will need to have a better offseason in order to get back to competing at a high level.

"Lathrop's got two girls that average 20 points a game," Hageman said. "So we knew we had to keep at least one of them from getting 20. We just had too many unforced turnovers. We had some shots we could have made and they just didn't fall and things kind of got worse from there."

"When you're playing one girl that is 6'4" and another girl that you can't matchup with because she can shoot outside or post-up inside,

With the 'Hounds coming in as a No. 7 seed and Lathrop being the No. 2 seed, Hageman knew his team would have a tall task ahead as well as some personnel mismatches.

"Drake believes that his team wrestled well, but that some of his athletes lacked a little bit of confidence when they hit the mats in front of the Mizzou Arena crowd."

"It is such a mental thing," Drake said. "Some kids really rise to the occasion and other ones, it really seems to bother them. They shut down sometimes and you just don't know until they get down there."

With Hull being the lone senior on the team, Drake is excited about the amount of experience his underclassmen received this year. Despite the team only winning 10 duals, Drake believes his team performed well this year, especially when considering the fact that it qualified two freshmen for the state tournament.

"Looking back over it, we were pretty successful," Drake said. "Three of our losses were tiebreaker decisions. We wrestled as many as six or seven freshmen at any one time."

"We got four state qualifiers coming back, and two of them are state finishers. The two freshmen know now what it takes to compete, and they also now know what it takes to place at state. They both were not able to win a match, but they got to wrestle two matches and wrestled really well."

Wrestling places 2, Weybrew finishes 2nd in Class 1 state tourney

TYLER BROWN

Chief Sports Reporter | @TyMan4_

One Spoofhound wrestler came up one match short of winning the Class 1 State Championship in the heavyweight division.

Junior Brendan Weybrew lost to junior Coleman Lawson from Mid-Buchanan by pinfall four minutes and 35 seconds into the championship match. Lawson also ended Weybrew's season last year during the state championship semifinals.

"It was a pretty close match," head coach Joe Drake said. "He kind of got caught up in a situation and ended up getting pinned in the final period."

Maryville took five wrestlers to the state tournament in Columbia. The athletes featured senior 152-pound Dane Hull, Weybrew, junior 126-pound Nathaniel Alexander, freshman 120-pound Cayden Dunbar and freshman 132-pound Matt Twaddle.

Weybrew and Alexander competed last season at state and placed. Once again, they were the only two on the podium at the end of weekend for the Spoofhounds.

Alexander placed fifth this year and did so with some controversy. Alexander won by sudden victory over Richmond's Dominic Nobile when Nobile

struck a blow to Alexander's face.

"In his last match, he was leading at the time and the other wrestler lost his cool and punched him," Drake said. "That is something that we cover early in the season. If another wrestler throws a punch, you have to really keep your cool and not strike back, because then both of you could be disqualified. And (Alexander) did a very good job of that."

Drake was a little disappointed with the outcome of the state tournament, feeling that the 'Hounds would place more wrestlers.

"Of the five that went down there, I really thought that three of them would place," Drake said. "Now, just exactly where all three of them would fall, I did not know."

If someone were to be that third person to place, it would presumably be senior Dane Hull, who qualified for state last year. Hull led the team in pins this year, but was bounced out of this year's tournament after losing two of his first three matches.

"Not that Dane wrestled poorly, don't misunderstand me," Drake said. "We were just disappointed he didn't place in the state tournament."

"Dane did an outstanding job at being a team leader for us. He's done just about everything we can ask from him. His leadership and the amount of

points he scores will definitely be missed."

Drake believes that his team wrestled well, but that some of his athletes lacked a little bit of confidence when they hit the mats in front of the Mizzou Arena crowd.

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Spoofhound results at Class 1 State Tournament

Brendan Weybrew
2nd overall
Finished 3-1

Nathaniel Alexander
5th overall
Finished 4-2

Dane Hull
Finished 1-2

Cayden Dunbar
Finished 0-2

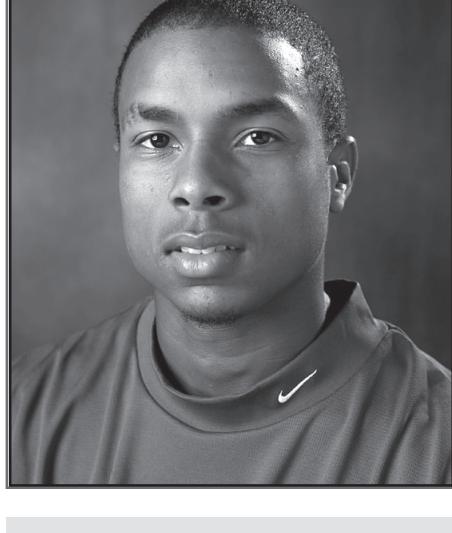
Matt Twaddle
Finisned 0-2

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



BEARCATS

DeShaun Cooper



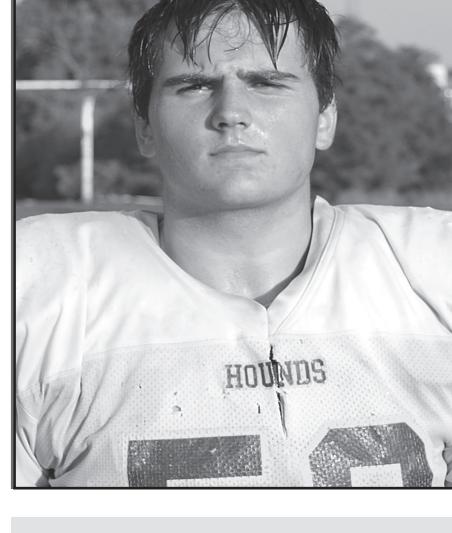
Senior point guard DeShaun Cooper led the Bearcats to a 92-60 win over Missouri Western in St. Joseph with 22 points on 8-of-15 shooting and added six assists.

Ashleigh Nelson



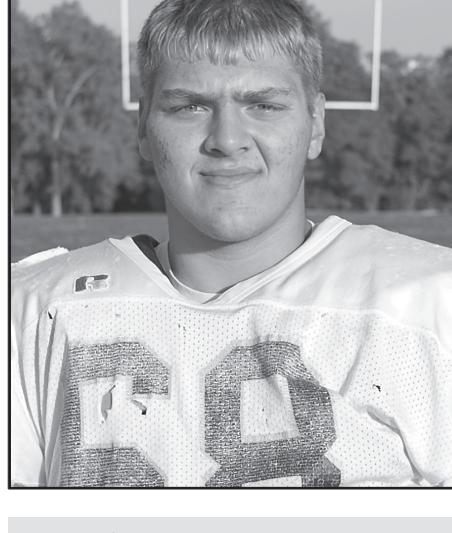
Though Northwest lost a crucial MIAA matchup with rival Missouri Western Feb. 22, junior guard Ashleigh Nelson scored 16 points, going a perfect nine-of-nine from the free throw line.

Brendan Weybrew



In the Class 1 state wrestling tournament, junior heavyweight Brendan Weybrew finished second to Coleman Lawson from Mid-Buchanan, going 3-1 overall in the tourney.

Jacob Cacek



Junior forward Jacob Cacek led Maryville basketball to a district quarterfinal win with 13 points in a 54-42 victory over Cameron. The 'Hounds play Lawson at 6 tonight.



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Women eyeing tourney with 1 game remaining until playoffs

DALTON VITT

Asst. Sports Editor | @DaltonVitt

The roller coaster ride that started in November for the women's basketball team is nearing the finish, but has not quite hit the end of the line.

Northwest, which last week was staring at potential home game to start the postseason, now tilts on the brink of exhaustion from this season.

At the time of publication, the Bearcats sit in 10th place in the conference with two games remaining: Feb. 26 against Southwest Baptist and March 1 at Central Missouri.

The results of last night's match-up with Baptist were unavailable as of press time, but check www.nwmmissourinews.com for an update.

"We just basically want to take it one game at a time," senior guard Meridee Scott said. "We know in the back of our minds that they're all very big games, but we want to go out there and go as hard as we can and leave the floor knowing that we played our hardest and will not have any regrets."

Scott has played 20 or more min-

utes in each of the last three games after not eclipsing that mark in any of the three prior contests.

Pitted against the MIAA's second-ranked team March 1, head coach Michael Smith knows what is at stake, but does not always bring it to the forefront in the locker room.

"I'm just hoping to get the most out of (the players) because in another week, week and a half, what are we going to be doing at 3 o'clock every day?" Smith said. "Nothin'... When's this group of 14 girls going to get a chance to get together like they have? I really hope they take that into consideration."

Northwest could lose each of its final two games and still make the playoffs, but would, at the very least, need Nebraska-Kearney to drop one of its final two games to Northeastern State or Central Oklahoma since the Lopers hold the tiebreaker.

Scott admitted the up-and-down nature of the last six weeks of the season has taken its toll.

"It's pretty exhausting; we try to keep our morale up just by trying to keep it light in practice," Scott said.

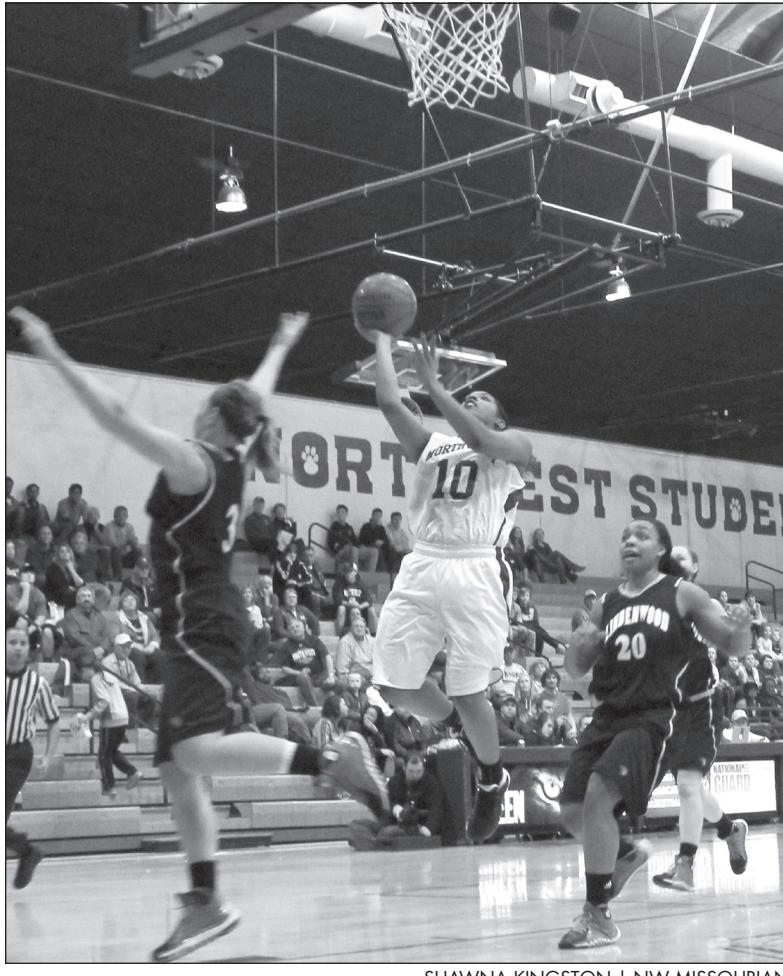
"We're trying our best, but it's kind of draining. I know that we'll pull through and it'll all work out in the end."

Entering last night's contest, the Bearcats were rutted in a three-game losing streak, including two overtime defeats and a 21-point loss to rival Missouri Western Feb. 22. The Griffons jumped on Northwest out of the gate, opening with an unrecoverable 25-2 lead in one of the more pivotal games of the year.

The skid followed a four-game winning streak, which put the Bearcats in a friendly situation for a brief period and is the second losing streak of three games this season.

"I know we can definitely snap out of it," Smith said. "...You look at our last two or three basketball games, and at times we've played well, and, obviously, at times, we haven't played very well at all."

"They've let the downward spin turn into a roller coaster. A lot of that is trying to find that leadership that we've been looking for, honestly, all year. We just haven't had any type of leadership in the locker room."



SHAWNA KINGSTON | NW MISSOURIAN

Junior guard Ariel Easton avoids a block attempt as she goes in for a layup in the Bearcats' 79-74 overtime loss against Lindenwood Feb. 19.

Men prepare for opener in Nebraska

DAULTON PERRY

Missourian Reporter | @NMWSports

While the Northwest women's tennis team looks to bounce back after a season-opening loss to Maryville College, the men's team is geared up for its season opener this weekend against St. Cloud.

The women fell six games to three Saturday in Red Oak, Iowa against the Maryville College Scots. The ladies split the singles series 3-3 with wins from freshman Lorena Rivas Jarolim, senior Alexis Bartek, and freshman Aniek Kolen. However, they lost in three straight sets (8-2, 9-7, and 8-3) in the doubles competition.

"It was a close match. We were without Marianne Hull this weekend, and that hurt us, but we are hoping to get her back this weekend," head coach Mark Rosewell said.

The women will take on St. Cloud Saturday in Grand Island, Neb. and then follow that up with a match against Augustana College.

"These are regional matches, so they are important matches, and we want to try to do as well as we can. It's going to probably be close on both of the matches," Rosewell said.

As far as the men's team, it is heading into its season favored to win the MIAA for the fifth straight year. Rosewell expected the preseason hype, but also understands how hard it is to get there.

The men are loaded with freshmen, with just three upperclassmen on the roster. Rosewell does not think it should affect them this season.

"We got three good experienced players in Sergio (De Vilchez), Lluis (Altimires) and Alvaro (Riveros) and then we got three freshmen, but I think it is going to bleed over," Rosewell said. "I think we got enough to carry us through, and they are good players. That's the bottom line."

With tennis being an outdoor sport, for the most part, the Bearcats have had to deal with the challenges of trying to practice outside when the weather has made it nearly impossible to do so.

"I think we have been outside day so far and it has hurt us, and probably helped us, get beat on Saturday," Rosewell said. "It hurts us a lot, but that's just the way it is. Sooner or later, we will get outside and catch up."

The matchups this weekend will be played inside at 9 a.m. Saturday at Grand Island, Neb.



CODY SIMMONS | NW MISSOURIAN

Freshman Julian Couronne returns a serve at practice to prepare for his first meet of the season.



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